


PRANAM

All pales before
His Radiance



Sept 58 AY

ANANDA MARGA SYDNEY SECTORIAL NEWSLETTER

Sect denies threat to Parliament

SYDNEY. — The Ananda Marga sect yesterday described as "ludicrous" reports that some of its members had been on guided tours of Parliament House in Canberra and by doing so created a security risk.

The sect said the fact Parliament House was still standing was ample evidence it did not intend to blow it up or kill any politicians inside.

"These reports are just another example of the attempts to paint the sect as some kind of terrorist organisation," an Ananda Marga spokesman said last night.

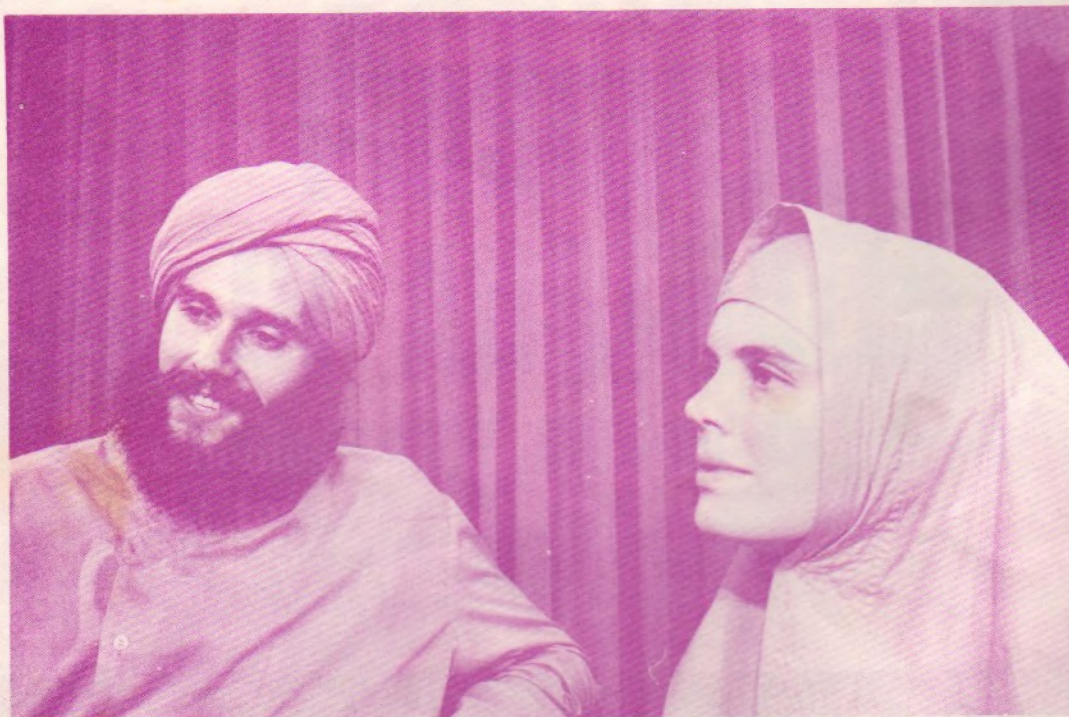
"The whole issue is laughable."

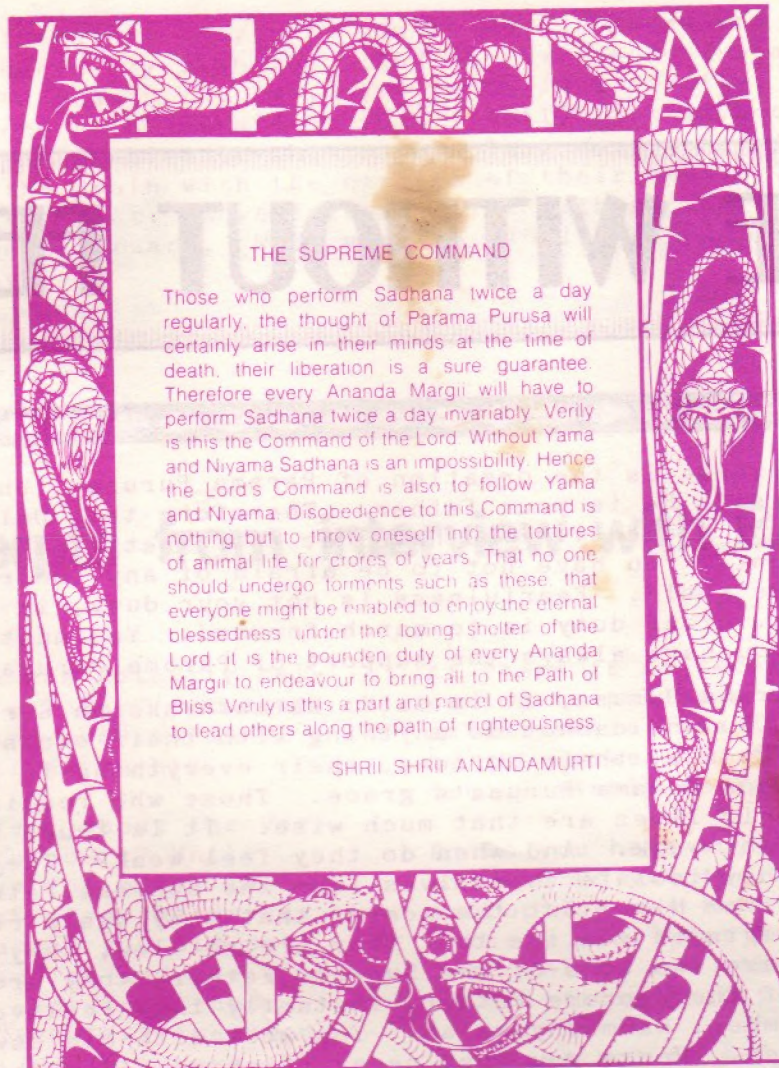
He said two members had visited Parliament House recently but for a publicity stunt.

"They were there for a purpose . . . to protest against the confiscation of Michael Scanlen's passport," the spokesman said.

Left: For more laughs from our fatuous Federal Government turn to p.11 and p.18

Below: Didi Cinmayii and Dada Kushala at a press conference after their arrival in Australia.





THE SUPREME COMMAND

Those who perform Sadhana twice a day regularly, the thought of Parama Purusa will certainly arise in their minds at the time of death, their liberation is a sure guarantee. Therefore every Ananda Margii will have to perform Sadhana twice a day invariably. Verily is this the Command of the Lord. Without Yama and Niyama Sadhana is an impossibility. Hence the Lord's Command is also to follow Yama and Niyama. Disobedience to this Command is nothing but to throw oneself into the tortures of animal life for crores of years. That no one should undergo torments such as these, that everyone might be enabled to enjoy the eternal blessedness under the loving shelter of the Lord, it is the bounden duty of every Ananda Margii to endeavour to bring all to the Path of Bliss. Verily is this a part and parcel of Sadhana to lead others along the path of righteousness.

SHRII SHRII ANANDAMURTI

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LIVE WITHOUT FEAR

BABA's First D.M.C. Discourse on 3rd August, '78 after His Release

This Universe is the creation of Parama Purusa. Who is this Parama Purusa? He is your father. Therefore this Universe is your paternal property. You have not to forget it even for a single moment. You have not to be afraid of any immoral (evil) force of the world. Fearfulness is not your duty, it is not your Dharma. Your duty is to march forward. You must move forward. You have always the support of Parama Purusa.

About Parama Purusa, it is said: Karmadhyaks'ah Sarva bhuta' dhiva'sah. Humans cannot do anything with their own strength. Humans' existence, their actions, their everything is verily dependent upon Parama Purusa's grace. Those who realise this early in their lives are that much wise. It is true, humans sometimes feel weak. And when do they feel weak? They feel weak when they isolate themselves from the Supreme Father, drift away from Him. But the moment that they again realise Him, they begin to realise that they are not low, they are not mean; they are the sons of the Supreme Father, they are the daughters of the Supreme Father, instantly they receive strength. Always remember: Karmadhyaks'ah. You work with His power, you have no power. Hence you must never think as to whether I will be able to do this work, whether this work is possible for me. You will certainly be able to do if there is grace of the Supreme Father. Why should you not be able to do? You will surely be able to do. While doing work you are always in His sight. He is always seeing you, you are not alone, you are never alone. In no circumstances are you alone.

Humans are never alone, but when they realise this, there is an advantage in it as well as a disadvantage. The disadvantage is that the Supreme Father's eye is ever on me, He is constantly looking at me, should I do any wrong action, He will see it then and there. There is no opportunity to do anything secretly. This is the disadvantage - a big disadvantage. And the advantage is that in no circumstance am I alone. Since the Supreme Father is with me, why should I be afraid of anyone? Why should I fear at all? There is no reason to be fearful. I have to move forward. Fearfulness is not my duty. Let the fear fear me, I will not fear.

I will therefore only tell you to move forward and Parama Purusa is certainly with you. And the evil force, what is it? If Parama Purusa is the sun, evil force is a firefly. Then what is there to be afraid of in a firefly? Is anybody ever afraid of the pebbles on the track? They move ahead throwing them into the drain with the strokes of their feet. This indeed is the fact. Move forward, live without fear. Continue your movement forward. What more should I say? I have nothing more to say.

Excerpts from interview with BABA

Before Baba was actually released, an "India Today" correspondent was granted permission to send some questions to Him.

Q: How do you feel about the verdict of the High Court? While millions of your followers the world over celebrated the day as "Victory of Dharma" you did not express any reaction and one of your followers explained that since you are NIRBHIKAR (passionless) you received this news coolly. Is it a fact you never react to anything and if so why?

A: Victory of DHARMA is a natural phenomenon. Everything natural should be accepted with normal coolness.

Q: Much confusion was created in the past because of lack of communication between you and the general public. Do you now think it is proper to have public contacts so that the confusion does not persist? Why have you lived a secluded life in the past?

A: There is no necessity of my coming in public contact because actual social service is rendered by the workers of the organisation. I simply assist the workers.

Q: Do you have any political ambitions? Do you feel that unless corruption was removed, the society would not be of your liking? Unless you take active part in politics, is it possible?

A: I have got no political ambition. I have propounded the theory of Prout for the welfare of human society. This theory will be materialized by those who love it.

Q: What is your opinion about democracy?

A: Democracy can be successful only where the following essential factors are present at least amongst 51 per cent of the voters - morality, literacy and socio-economic-political consciousness. Otherwise it is an instrument to befool the public.

Jayanta Kumara, who recently returned from India, relates some of his experiences with our Beloved Guru, since His release from jail.

Lord's Darshan

For the first two weeks after Baba came out of jail (on Wednesday 2nd) I was graced to be in Patna to enjoy many of the Lord's blissful darshans. Recalled here are some of the invaluable lessons and guidance Baba gave during this period.

From the very moment Baba came out of jail, He commenced His work, despite the fact that He had been fasting for over 5 years, and His body was weak, though radiant. He gave loving care to His family members and devotees who had assembled from many places to welcome Him. And the morning after leaving jail He gave the first general darshan (which actually became a Maha Cakra) in the grounds of the large hall in Patna.

Most of the darshan, like subsequent general darshans (which were delivered at a newly acquired jagrti in Patliputra Colony) were given in Hindi. Often Baba would give the essence of the darshan in English, stating the important ideas clearly either at the beginning or in the middle of His talk. Most of these first general darshans were taped, and are being translated by Ac. Santosanandaji (in Phulwarisharif Jail). Hopefully the complete darshans from the period will be published in English shortly.

The following recollections have been pieced together from hastily written notes, and from discussions with various Dada's. They are very fragmentary, (and

quite possibly distorted), but may serve to give some indication of what Baba was saying during this period.

On the morning of the 5th August, Baba said that the cub of a lion grows into a lion and not a jackal. Even if a lion is just sitting, the mice get frightened of him. Lord explained that we are lions, and should not fear anybody. We must move forward. Humanity expects much more from us, and is waiting for our better efforts. Then Baba said: "You know I am also with you".

He explained that there will be difficulties, and moments of pain, but that final victory will be ours. Then He said:

"The world requires your assistance. You should be ready to do all sorts of service to humanity. And you know, I am also with you".

That evening in His residence Baba spoke about many things including His fast. He said that for four years and eight months He had been bed-ridden - He didn't put His feet on the ground, and then He said that's why He couldn't walk (Baba was carried out of jail and was moving in a wheel-chair). Then He said, "For Me it will take 5-6 days". Next He explained that the first three months of fasting were painful and very difficult. There was intense thirst and hung-



er, and Baba's intestines were churning. After this initial period, there was less difficulty. Baba said that His enemies wanted to kill Him though they tried their level best they failed. Baba said that His brain is very strong and that His heart is very strong, and that His memory was good all along - even now it is very clear. He said He can remember everything in detail for the last 57 years, even the drop of a pin.

On the evening of the 9th, Baba explained that so-called spiritualism has an unholy pact with capitalism. Dharma is to fight the crude realities and practicalities of life - that which does not teach people how to deal with the crude practicalities of the world creates physical and psychic ailments in the human being and society. Before Baba gave His ideology the six spokes of bhati were absent - there is an unholy alliance between spiritualism and capitalism. Dharma had a 'subsidiary' role to capitalism. As such there was not co-operative co-operation but subordinate co-operation. (Later Baba explained that in the West spiritualism is not the correct term to use, rather spirituality should be used - the former pertains to ghosts and supernatural things, and the latter term pertains to that which is spiritual).

On the morning of the 10th, Baba spoke about Duracari and Su-duracari. Duracari is a person whose actions are harmful to society, and Su-duracari is a person whose actions are so bad that even Duracari hate them. If a bad person points out another person whose actions are even more detrimental to society than his/her own, this other is Su-duracari.

Baba asked: Is there no future for Duracari and Su-duracari? Then He said human beings after all, are part of the Supreme, so there is a future for them if they are always remembering the Supreme Entity.

On the morning of the 11th, Baba spoke about three essential factors for mental progress.

- 1) Pariprashnena
- 2) Pranipatena
- 3) Seva

1) Pariprashnena is complete surrender, the mental attitude that whatever we get we get from Him. Those who think that their intellect or wealth etc is their own are fools. The worst type of mental complex is intellectual vanity. The first thing required for mental progress is complete surrender. After that everything else comes.

2) Pranipatena means asking only those questions that help in furthering spiritual progress. All other questions are a waste of our time, and a waste of time of the person being asked.

3) Seva means selfless service. If there is a mutual relationship then this is business not social service. Any commercial transaction involves getting something for the services rendered. Service means giving something but not getting anything in return, and even if something is given, then not accepting it. Then Baba said we have taken birth for a limited period so our time in this world should not be used in superfluous activities. Baba said:

"Serve the universe with the spirit of Seva - render all sorts of service in the physical, intellectual and spiritual realms."



Didi Cinmayii and Dada Kushala arriving at Sydney airport after their release from a Thai prison.

'Animal, Vegetable, Mineral'

Didi Cinmayii

There is a guessing game in which players must guess in 20 questions the identity of an object in one player's mind. The first question asked is always "Animal, Vegetable or Mineral?"

It is anyone's guess as to what is behind a Thai prison's walls. But once on the inside you soon find out: animals, vegetables, minerals - in human form - but not human beings. The scope of the prison's achievement is about the same as the scope of the game.

Every aspect of prison life is geared to keep a prisoner's mind moving backwards down the evolutionary scale, from animal to stone. Each day is the same round of eating, manual labour, sitting, sleeping. TV at the weekends, periodic music blaring from loudspeakers - and intermittent brawls - provide for diversion. Eating, dancing the 'bump' to the beat of an upturned bucket, and homosexual activity are about the only other outlets from boredom. Books are prohibited in rooms, reading times strictly

limited, handicrafts are forbidden.

Fear complex dominates and stultifies - the prisoners must cringe before the guards when they pass them, and kneel to them in conversation. The guards themselves are petty officials who themselves do little except revel in their small measure of power. It is the prisoners who run prisoners' lives: they lock them up at night, let them out in the morning, inform on them, search them, beat them up. There is a regularly polished veneer of respectability. Even for a surprise inspection, within five minutes of the announcement, a vibration of hushed, tranquil industry settles over the prison. The prison grounds are well-kept; and no-one is starving or even hungry. But minds are starved and dull. There is no spirit of comradeship, no courage, no unity in resistance of a common oppressor. The environment is as stifling as the sultry air before a monsoon storm.

Jails reflect the calibre of the society which builds them. And the thing about all this is that you don't have to go to jail to experience it. Capitalist exploitation locks society into the confines of Shudra mentality and turns the human condition into that of a prisoner in jail. Going to jail simply focusses the mind on what the capitalists try to hide in a multitude of cunning disguises.

So the tourist in Thailand sees charming people, splendid temples, beautiful countryside. But you, from your prison van, riding from jail to court and back see animals in human form; you see the luxurious craziness of a superimposed Western culture, mocking the poverty of Asian streets. You see rush-hour travellers staring in at you from their bus to yours, with pity and disdain. And from behind the wire netting and the bars, you feel such pain inside, because they do not know where real freedom lies. Because they

are trapped, not you. But still the time has not yet come for everything to be set right - and still you are in training ...

Sisters and brothers, the hum of the wheels of revolution is beginning to be heard. We will not all go to jail; but every experience we go through can serve to train us in revolutionary zeal and capacity. Prison does not work miracles. If crude mental condition is there, prison turns out animals, vegetables, rocks. If sentient force is there and right effort is made, prison is a godsend for developing inner strength. Whichever way the scales are set, prison is one weight which tips the balance, and sends you up or down.

In reality, there are many such experiences which BABA gives to test our inner equilibrium and show us where our hearts and energies really lie. If we are to prove ourselves ready to accept the revolutionary challenge, we must view every situation with the same Dharmic spirit as we view arrest and imprisonment. It may be very difficult, it may be frightening, or it may be very ordinary and even anti-climactic. But even the most humdrum everyday alternative, such as whether to do your full hour's sadhana or give up and go and have dinner, can be treated as an exercise in determination and courage. You don't have to wait until you are arrested.

While I was in jail, being treated as a "dangerous element" whom no-one was supposed to speak to, it became clear to me how current attempts to brand Ananda Marga as a terrorist band are nothing short of laughable, considering the stupendous nature of ANANDAMURTIJI's Mission. BABA says that, "I do not want that animals in the form of human beings remain on this earth even for a second."

Yet millions of lives are in this state at this very time, offending the order of Nature and giving pain to their Lord. There is none more radical than the Cosmic Revolutionary. From His perspective, real benevolence

lies, not in the soupy morality of the Establishment which seeks at all costs to preserve this unnatural and inhuman condition, but in the eradication of these millions of lives. No human being, no organization is capable of destruction on such a scale. Terrorist groups and armies pale into insignificance before such a task. So He must take the help of Nature to accomplish it. In Cosmic hands, death is always benevolent. Countless animal minds must be restored to animal bodies before this society can become truly human.

BABA has said that in the past there have been man-made calamities; but Man's natural capacity has always enabled him to survive them. Now there will be natural calamities, but Man's natural capacities will no

longer suffice. At such time, BABA said, even I will not be able to save you. Only Sadhana and Sixteen Points will be able to save you!

BABA is out of jail; but human beings remain in the prison of animal existence. They can no more break themselves out of it than a Thai prisoner can strike back at the guard who is kicking her in the face. Sadhana and Sixteen Points are not lifelines to be grabbed at the last moment. They are the grounds for the pauseless preparation that His Mission demands. Only through them can we attune ourselves to His Divine Will and Tactics and establish the glorious Human ERA for which He has come.

JAI ANANDA MARGA - JAI ANANDAMURTIJI



My Guardian

Lord, if I ever try to leave You in my mind
remind me of the time
I spent with You in jail.

Now we are physically free,
You and I,
Keep my mind in a special cell,
locked with Your love.

Its walls are firm reminders
that I cannot leave You
Its bars the disciplines
that guide my life.

I will never leave You
for You are my Guardian
And I remain, locked in Your embrace,
until I am eternally free.

Didi Cinmayii

Sect members fly home after Thai jail ordeal

Two Australian members of the Ananda Marga sect returned to Sydney today with horror tales of their six months in a Bangkok jail.

Timothy Jones, of Melbourne, and Caroline Spark, of Canberra, both 25, were charged with possessing explosives and were linked with the Sydney Hilton Hotel bombing after their arrest on February 15.

They and another sect member, Sarah Child, an American, were held without trial for two months.

The passports of Mr Jones and Miss Spark were confiscated and they were escorted on a Qantas flight to Sydney today by Commonwealth police.

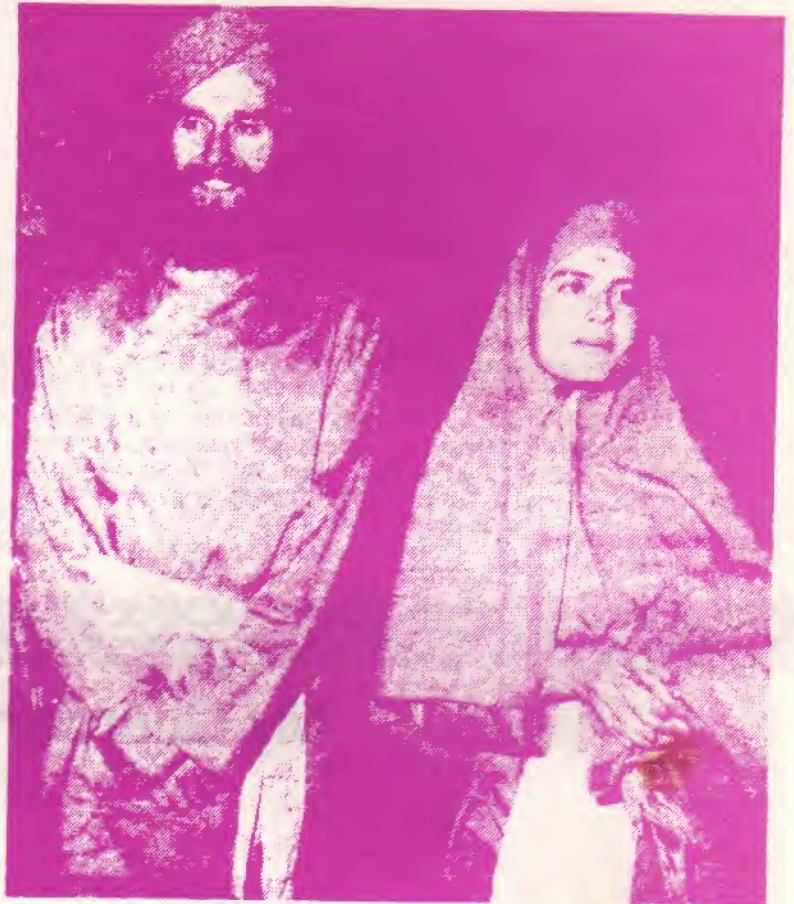
By STEVE PIVETTA

Mr Jones said conditions in the Bangkok "hard punishment" cell were disgusting and horrendous.

He said heroin was widely used by prisoners.

Both said they pleaded guilty to possessing explosives so they could get back to Australia.

Mr Jones said he and Miss Spark first saw explosives they were alleged to have been carrying, when police charged them.



Timothy Jones and Caroline Spark at Sydney Airport today.

Ananda Marga two claim Thai frame-up

SYDNEY. — Two Ananda Marga devotees returned to Australia yesterday after six months imprisonment in Thailand, still adamant that Commonwealth police had been involved in a "frame-up" against them.

Before they left Thailand on Wednesday, Timothy Jones, from Kew, Melbourne, and Caroline Spark from Canberra had their passports confiscated by Thai police acting on behalf of the Australian Government.

The two sect members were arrested in Thailand with an American member, Sarah Child, in February and charged with "possession of land mines or explosives".

The charge was then changed to possession of explosives for military purposes, "i.e. to blow up the Australian Embassy in Bangkok".

Jones yesterday claimed the altered charge resulted from a visit to Thailand by two Commonwealth policemen, who visited them in jail.

Last week, a Thai judge sentenced them to 30 months' jail after making an agreement that only the original charge be heard and the devotees plead guilty.

As they had already spent five months and 25 days in jail awaiting trial, Jones, Spark and Child spent only another five days in prison.

After two more days in a detention centre, they were released.

The light sentence and the

"deal" with the judge was arranged because, according to Jones, the case had "become an embarrassment to the Governments of Thailand and Australia".

The sect will ask the Commonwealth Government for an official explanation about the confiscation of the passports of Jones, Spark, and a leader of the sect in Australia, Michael Brandon.

Jones expects to return to his family in Melbourne next week.

Thailand to free Ananda Marga trio

From NEIL KELLY

BANGKOK. Thursday. — Thailand decided today to release two Australians and an American, members of the Ananda Marga sect, because the Government feared terrorist reprisals if a court sentenced them to long jail terms.

An authoritative source said this today after the three had changed their pleas of not guilty to having possessed 1.25 kg of plastic explosives, to guilty, in exchange for light sentences.

They were arrested in a Bangkok hotel last February, and the prosecution alleged they planned to bomb diplomatic buildings here.

The three are Timothy Jones, 25, of Kew, Victoria, Caroline Spark, 25, of Canberra, and Sarah Child, 29, of Spokane, Washington State, US.

They were today sentenced to six months' jail for the illegal possession of explosives, but will be released next Tuesday. By then they will have been six months in custody.

Jones and Spark will be deported to Australia next week, after their release. Child will also be deported to an unspecified destination.

An official offer of almost immediate release if they changed their pleas to guilty was made yesterday on the first day of their trial.

Their lawyers described the offer as "very unusual" and advised them to accept it. Had they continued to plead innocent, and been convicted, they could have been sentenced to 20 years' imprisonment.

During today's court proceedings the defendants discussed the offer with court officials and the regional secretary of the Ananda Marga. After five minutes they agreed to it, were found guilty and sentenced.

Jones and Spark later said

they would continue to work for Ananda Marga in Australia.

Australian Embassy officials assured the two Australians that there were no plans for charges to be brought against them in Australia relating to events in Thailand.

"We maintain our innocence," the two said.

"We pleaded guilty after the offer was made to us as we saw we had no chance of a fair trial in Thailand.

"Outside prison we can act. We know people in Australia are hostile to Ananda Marga but that's only because they don't know the truth. We aim to change that."

Jones said he would dedicate the rest of his life to Ananda Marga.

Caroline Spark said: "I leave prison with some reluctance. Where else could I spend nine hours a day in meditation as I have been doing?"

No passport for sect leader

The spiritual leader of the Ananda Marga sect in Australia is seeking legal advice after cancellation of his passport by the Foreign Affairs Department early yesterday morning.

Commonwealth Police detained Mr Michael Luke Brandon, 28, who is known as Dada Acarya Abhiik Kumar in the sect, for two hours at Sydney Airport after he arrived on a flight from India.

A spokesman for the Foreign Affairs Department said last night that the Federal Government was no longer willing to require of a foreign government the protection and assistance for Mr Brandon normally afforded an Australian citizen.

Mr Brandon became an Australian citizen in 1976 after coming to Sydney to lead the sect in 1973. He was born and lived in the United States until he became a member of the Ananda Marga.

Canberra alert on Ananda Marga

From LAURIE OAKES

CANBERRA. — Several leading members of the Ananda Marga sect have taken guided tours of Parliament House in the past fortnight.

According to alarmed security officials, they have been recognised among sightseers being shown over the building by parliamentary attendants.

The security men are also worried by reports that sect members have "infiltrated" the Parliament House staff.

Concern over the activities of Ananda Marga zealots has resulted in tight security precautions this week for the conference of Commonwealth Speakers and presiding officers.

Three Commonwealth police experts on Ananda Marga, capable of recognising known members of the sect, have been added to the security team at Parliament House.

For the first time members of the public taking guided tours of the building are having their bags searched as they enter the front door.

The Speaker of the Lok Sabha, the Indian lower chamber, Shri K.S. Hegde, and the deputy chairman of the Upper House, Shri Ram Niwas, who are among delegates to the conference, are being closely guarded.

Two incidents since Parliament resumed on August 15 for the Budget session have caused security planners to tighten protection this week.

In the first week of the



session a long man threw Ananda Marga pamphlets from the public gallery of the House of Representatives on to the heads of MPs.

Last Wednesday a mock bomb — actually a shoebox full of pamphlets — was found in a toilet off King's Hall.

Officials said yesterday the Ananda Marga leaders recognised by security men among tourists at Parliament House appeared to have other followers with them.

There was concern over the reasons sect members might have for familiarising themselves with the building.

A report that two members of the sect have jobs in Parliament House is being taken seriously by security authorities.



On Being Great

In Ananda Marga we are all aware to varying degrees of the desire to do something useful with our lives - in fact, something dynamic and great. Gratitude towards the Guru is the very pure motive behind this sentiment. Through countless evolutions and twists and turns of His Liila we have come - suddenly to find ourselves rescued by sadhana and His Ideology as the means of broaching the last lap of our journey.

However, it is true that we 'have a right to our actions and not to their results'. It is purely His pleasure, His whim, if He allows us to feel that we can do or have done anything whatsoever for His mission. What a trap it can be to look on our results to judge our effectiveness. For BABA withholds our senses of success and failure according to our personal development and the unfolding of His Liila, not our desire to feel great.

Often in life our effectiveness seems restricted. During these times in particular we must turn to the only area of work which doesn't depend on our situation - and that is our effort to follow 16 Points. Circumstances may affect the results of our work in this area, but ideally not our effort. It is certain that any sincere desire to do anything great with our lives must begin and continue to centre around 16 Points, otherwise we are being hypocritical. There is nothing more devastating to the ego than the Tapah of following 16 Points perhaps even feeling it is the only offering we can give. Doing "important" work may bring the relief of a conscience which tells us that we are working hard and which may bring the warmth of respect or appreciation from others. However, adhering to 16 Points enhances our special secretive relationship with BABA and provides a safe and healthy centre around which our success-failure samskaras can pivot.

So whether we feel we have the opportunity to do great things for BABA or not, the opportunity to be great by following 16 Points never goes away.

CAUTION!!

Narada describes his contact with prisoners in Long Bay remand centre.

Inside Impressions

When we first came to the remand centre, one of the first inmates that we got to know was a brother by the name of Andre. He is waiting sentence for armed robbery. Andre is a 20 year old person with a very simplistic mind (Shudra qualities). His mind has been messed up due to a lot of dope and wrong company. Anyway despite this he has shown many signs of 'spiritual' hope.

One of the first things he asked me when I met him was to feel how strong his arm muscle was. I was amused at his open vanity but played along with him. After feel-

ing his muscle I then challenged him to feel mine. I think by the way I put it he was expecting mine to be rock hard like his, but to his surprise it was far from that. Still determined to impress me with his strength he challenged me to an arm wrestle. Not being one to give up challenges, I agreed, although never was very good at them. We had the wrestle and he easily beat me. After that he started to come around our cell a lot and seemed to have developed a liking for us - especially after he saw me doing my martial arts training - some kind of Ksatriyan respect (I fear!) developed in him. Often we would pull him down for the crude things he would say and tell him about the need for meditation. His ego often got a beating but still he came back for more. One day after doing some sadhana (out in the yard) he started mocking me about being a 'Guru' etc and we just laughed at him. It came time to go for role call and as I was leaving and not having said anything to him about meditation, he came out and said: "You're not going to convert me, you know". I said what made him think we were trying to and he said nothing. The next day in the yard he approached Govindaji while I was doing sadhana and said, "Now what's this meditation all about?" Baba Krpah Kevalam! Baba had finally attracted him to the path through us. Govindaji then had a serious talk with him and that night I gave him BNK. After that Govindaji said if he did it twice a day he would give him guitar lessons and this pleased him greatly and he even now occas-



Narada conducting a VSS meeting before his arrest.

ionally meditates even when not wanting a guitar lesson.

Others whom we first met were Neil and Joey who were on charges of armed robbery with Public Enemy No. 1 "Jocky Smith" who is in Parramatta jail. They often called out, "Long live Ananda " to us as we walked by. One time Neil said to Govindaji that he wouldn't mind dying for some good cause. I think it was after talking about AM. Anyway, soon after we taught them both BNK and had weekly meditation with them.

One time while I was sitting down a middle aged man came up to me and wanted to know about yoga. I explained to him about it and sadhana, AM and finally we got into the need to make changes in society. He kept on saying he admired my beliefs, convictions and sincerity but when it came to changing the world and also beating the charges that we were on, he showed doubt.

I tried to explain why we would succeed in both respects although he still felt doubt - although much less - he did say, "Well, if anyone can do it, you lot can". The following day he came to me and asked if I still felt so confident and positive about my case as I did yesterday and I said, "Sure". He then reiterated what he said the previous say and added, "I think it's your personality and sincerity that will do, good luck" and he went away smiling. I thought in my mind, "It is His Personality in me that will do it!"

One time a man (charged with armed robbery) came into our cell and told Govindaji all about his past history and how he ended up here. He had expressed interest in sadhana and Govindaji was helping him with his problem. Anyway, to cut a long story short, after Govindaji had finished talking with

him, it was time to go to bed and although at this stage he was still perplexed as to what to do about his problem, the next day the solution came to him and he told us that the talk the night before seemed to have cleared his head up and gave him the solution. Baba guides His children in many mysterious ways!

One morning after asanas, while in dead pose, one warder opened the door to let us out for breakfast. About a minute later he returned and said, "Are you dead or alive?" I replied, "Dead". A few seconds silence, then he gave a grunt as he walked out (he was trying to hassle me into going for my breakfast).

There is one brother who had spoken to both Govindaji and myself about AM and said he was interested in learning sadhana. One day I taught him BNK and during the conversation that followed a short sadhana, he both inspired and surprised me with the following statements that simultaneously reminded me of Baba's omnipresence and power to work through His devotees.

After talking about the difference between physical vibrations and spiritual vibrations and how different thoughts affect the people near you, I asked him if he had ever felt different vibrations from us (3) and he said that the first time he saw us in the yard he knew we were "different" from the others and that we were definitely "up to something important". I asked "good or bad things?" and he answered "good things". He went on and said that we weren't just different as a group but individually different from everyone else. Sometimes he thought we "weren't even there"! After explaining why he felt all this he said he thought he might be out in a few weeks but since meeting us, wants to stay in here with us. I then told him that if he gets out, he can be with about 40 similar people when he attends the group meditation.

This man was another victim of the armed hold up squad, and said one night after being on "smack" that they came into his room while he was asleep and started to kick him in the head. Next thing he knew was that he was in the jail hospital and had been charged with assaulting them. He also found out that the hospital authorities had said in their report on him that he definitely had been beaten up by someone. I have arranged for a lawyer interested in exposing the armed hold up squad of the CIB to come out and see him about charging them. His present lawyer doesn't seem interested in doing so. This man, John, also has now given up "smack" (heroin).

Two common classes found in jails are shudra and ksatriya. As you know one quality in the ksatriya is pride and I have found this quality helpful in directing some of the inmates to more sentient habits.

One time I was in the shower one brother next to me asked me if I would like to join his karate/guitar club when he got out. I asked him who was going to be the teacher and he said he was, I replied, "You! You don't have the discipline to do that". He gambled that he had and I said, "I bet you couldn't even go a week without

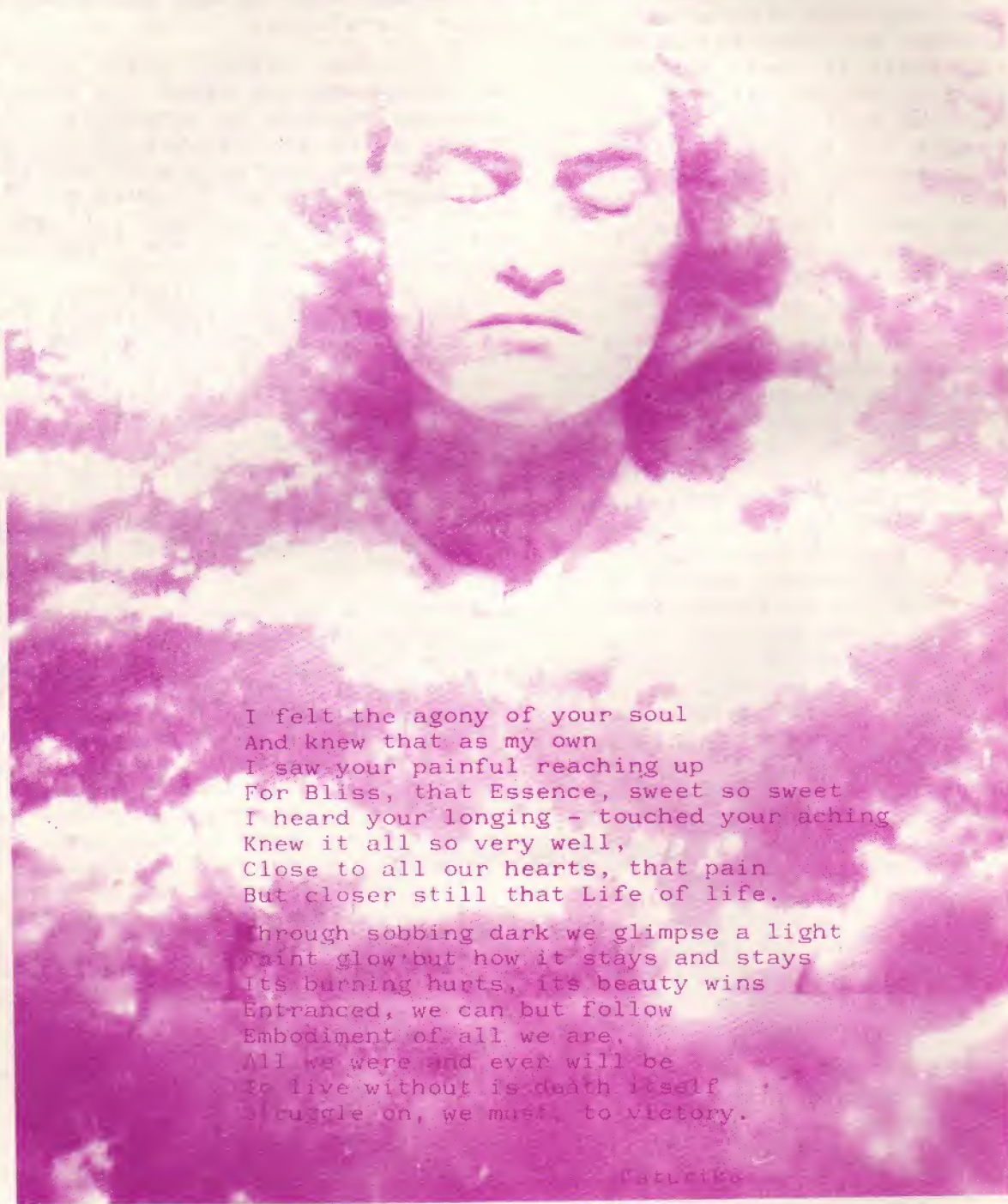
swearing" and he said he could. Within seconds after saying he would not swear for a week, he dropped his soap and began to swear I quickly pointed it out to him and he then said, "OK, from now on I'll not swear." He then called out to his friend that he was not going to swear for a week.

A few days later I heard that he had been swearing again and when I told him of this he agreed but said he was going to continue to try and not swear as it was a good thing and anyway "birds like guys who don't swear, don't they?" It was not quite the reason why I thought he should give up swearing!

This same person, who is in on stealing \$80,000 worth of jewellery is one of our most potential sadhakas. Although he still thinks he doesn't need it, he has the sincerity and inclination towards such things and hangs around us a lot. The other day, for no apparent reason, he started to justify to me why he thought he didn't need to do sadhana. The last inmate to do that to me learnt BNK the next day! (This same man is now attempting to give up smoking after nine years. So far he's gone a day and if he lasts a week we said we will give him a third a tin of 'Milo'.



CLOSER STILL



I felt the agony of your soul
And knew that as my own
I saw your painful reaching up
For Bliss, that Essence, sweet so sweet
I heard your longing - touched your aching
Knew it all so very well,
Close to all our hearts, that pain
But closer still that Life of life.

Through sobbing dark we glimpse a light
Faint glow but how it stays and stays
Its burning hurts, its beauty wins
Entranced, we can but follow
Embodiment of all we are,
All we were and ever will be
To live without is death itself
Struggle on, we must, to victory.

Catullus

AJM Report

August AY 58 must surely be the best month we've ever had in Ananda Marga. Not only has our beloved BABA come out of jail at last, but the Bangkok 3 have also been released, and Pranava has been acquitted on all major charges.

I think most of us are a little stunned still at all this good news, almost as though it's too good to be true. But true it is, and it seems very probable that our three brothers in Long Bay Prison will be with us again too very soon. In New Zealand, too, Nataraja was released from jail a couple of months ago, and Jagadiish is due out in mid November. BABA said recently that He wants all His children out of jail and He is certainly taking the necessary steps to ensure that they are reunited.

The events of the past two months have been extraordinarily intense and fast moving - from the confrontation with the police and heavy scenes of June, to the victory celebrations of July and August. Things have changed

radically in Ananda Marga in this sector (and no doubt all over the world). In this tiny period of time we experienced in quick succession two extremes of His liila, both of them inspiring and strengthening in completely different ways. The arrests of our brothers, and the subsequent raids, deportations, demonstrations and more arrests have increased our unity and determination a thousandfold; we can only be grateful to the Australian government police forces for giving us such an opportunity for growth. With every new act of persecution and harassment, we grow stronger.

But most important of all, the events of the past two months, perhaps more than any before, served to remind us again that everything that happens, whether enjoyable or painful, is controlled by our Lord. The universe is in His hands. We all know it intellectually of course, but sometimes He lets us see it and feel it more clearly than usual and over the past couple of months we have been particularly blessed in this way.

Ainjali



Demonstration outside the Commonwealth Centre in Sydney in protest against the cancellation of Dada Abhiik's passport.

Marga stir in the House

CANBERRA. — Federal police quizzed a member of the Ananda Marga sect for more than three hours yesterday after he showered Federal MPs with leaflets from the visitors' gallery.

Roger Thompson, 22, of Sydney, threw about 200 printed leaflets into the chamber shouting "Free Michael Brandon" (the sect leader in Australia). He also yelled out that Brandon was "a political prisoner of Malcolm Fraser."

The incident occurred at the end of question time, soon after the Prime Minister had left the chamber.

Thompson breached the much-publicised new security system of Parliament House to make his protest.

There was cause for some amusement among members since the speaker, Sir Billy Snedden, had just called for the presentation of papers by Ministers.

Members on both sides of the House grabbed copies of the leaflets.

Two Federal police

From TONY O'LEARY

immediately pounced on Mr Thompson and took him away for questioning.

Unruffled, Sir Billy again called for papers to be presented.

"I didn't expect to produce that kind of show-er," he said.

Speaking to the Primary Industry Minister, Mr Sinclair, he said: "I will ask the honorable gentleman to see if he can present papers without the same result."

The documents which landed in the chamber were headed "Is Australia becoming a fascist country?"

They claimed that Brandon's passport had been confiscated without cause, representing an infringement of basic rights and a "blatant example" of repression.

After interrogation by police Mr Thompson said that he had acted to draw attention to this situation.

He said he was a member of Ananda Marga from New Zealand and was now living in Sydney.



• Roger Thompson

POLITICIANS' 'GAMES' INTERRUPTED

Describing Australian politicians as "uninspiring characters", Mr Roger Thompson, an Ananda Marga sect-member who showered the House of Representatives with leaflets yesterday, said later he had "no worries about interrupting their games".

He was talking last night after being held at Parliament House by Commonwealth Police for 3½ hours. He was not charged with any offence but was told he might be charged on summons over the incident.

"I actually enjoyed doing it because of the way these politicians carry on — it's just the way the Government is handling the Michael Brandon affair", he said later. "I think it's an attack on human rights. That is why I yelled, 'Michael Brandon is a political prisoner of Malcolm Fraser'."

The leaflets, distributed by Mr



Mr Thompson

Thompson, said Mr Brandon had had his passport confiscated and cancelled when he returned to Australia from a three-month stay in India.

Although Mr Thompson had never made any similar sort of public protest he was not nervous about doing it. "That is what I came here from Sydney for", he said.

CANBERRA. — An ACT Supreme Court jury yesterday found a man guilty of having attacked the military adviser to the Indian High Commission, Col. Iqbal Singh, in September last year.

John William Duff, 26, a social worker, was also found guilty of having attacked the liberty of Col. Singh and his wife.

Mr Justice Connor recommended Duff in custody for sentencing on a date to be fixed.

Duff had pleaded not guilty to charges of having attempted to murder Col. Singh, on or about September 13, having kidnapped Col. Singh, and Mrs Singh, and of breaking and entering the

Man 'guilty' on diplomat attack

Singh's Red Hill house and inflicting grievous bodily harm on Col. Singh.

After seven hours deliberation, the jury found Duff not guilty on the attempted murder charge but guilty on an alternative charge of an attack on the person of Col. Singh.

The jury further found that the attack did not cause Col. Singh grievous bodily harm.

It found him not guilty of the two kidnapping

charges, but found him guilty on alternate charges of attacks on the liberty of Col. and Mrs Singh.

Duff was found not guilty on the breaking and entering and inflicting grievous bodily harm charge.

Each of the charges on which Duff was convicted carry a maximum sentence of seven years, plus under the Crimes (International Protection Personages) Act.

SECTORIAL NEWS

"Clouds cannot overcast the sun for a long time. The creatures of darkness never want the expansive exaltation of human society. Even then man shall march ahead. None can arrest the speed of their progress. YOU BE THE HARBINGERS, YOU BE THE PIONEERS OF THIS VICTORIOUS MARCH. See that not a single individual lags behind."

- BA'BA'

August has been a very good month. Jai BA'BA'. Firstly the Lord's release from jail which was the highlight for us all. The release of the Bangkok 3 and so many smaller victories in our own lives all served to give us once again fresh insight into the Lord's greatness. Now with the taste of victory still fresh upon our lips we must move ahead with even greater zeal to establish Sadvipra Samaja.

CELEBRATIONS

Nagar kiirtan was held in Perth to celebrate the Lord's release. Popcorn was distributed to passers-by. Media interest in BA'BA's case was good and Giita did several interviews for radio and television stations.

Margiis in Brisbane and Adelaide held three-hour kiirtan followed by DC.

In Sydney a street demonstration was held. Margiis joyously sang kiirtan and distributed leaflets, flowers and prasad. A special celebration dinner was held to introduce the public to Ananda Marga philosophy. Nirainjan gave a brief talk on the history of AM and music was provided by Radha, Nava Kumar, Ashrava, Suvod and Satyendra.

DHARMA PRACAR

Courses and classes:- Adelaide is

at present conducting two very successful six week courses. Narayana reports that five people from the first of these are seeking initiation.

Kapil and Guruvati have started a course at their home in Sydney.

Naciketa has started a regular morning class and another evening class at the Brisbane jagrti.

In Melbourne a course has started at one of the technical colleges, and Dinesh is continuing to hold regular group meditation.

Seminars and talks:- Dada Vacaspati gave a talk at Wellington University and a seminar was held at Wellington jagrti.

Perth Margiis are conducting regular one day seminars.

SERVICE PROJECTS

Soup Kitchen:- The soup kitchens in Sydney and Perth are continuing very successfully. In Adelaide the local council has raised some loud objections to the venue. In spite of this the work is continuing to expand with some of the people who are being fed asking if they can help with the preparation of the soup. Margiis are also helping a group of young Christians with a soup patrol that they have organised.

Red Cross:- In Brisbane Margiis are continuing to work at the Red Cross shelter at the Royal Brisbane hospital.

Bulk Buying:- A bulk buying scheme has been started by Perth Margiis to provide dried goods etc to people living in an aboriginal camp at a price that they can afford.

Aboriginal Hostel:- Funds are still being collected for the AM Aboriginal Live In Learning Centre in Perth.

Education:- Two stalls were held in Perth to raise money for the school.

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